Serial No.: 09/836,514

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-25 (canceled)

26. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 25~~ claim 30 additionally comprising:

contacting the formed fuel material with a quantity of compressed gas, the compressed gas including a quantity of oxidant,

reacting at least a portion of the formed fuel material with at least a portion of the quantity of oxidant to produce heat,

heating a stored quantity of inert gas with at least a portion of the produced heat to form an increased volume of gas and

passing at least a portion of the increased volume of gas into the inflatable safety device to effect the inflation thereof.

Claims 27-29 (canceled)

30. (previously presented) In a method for inflating an inflatable safety device via an inflator device wherein a fuel material reacts to form gas generation reaction products, the improvement comprising:

heating a mixture containing at least a water-supplying compound and a water-reactive fuel precursor within the inflator device to form the fuel material in situ, wherein the fuel precursor comprises potassium t-butyl carbonate.

31. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 25~~ claim 30 wherein the water-supplying compound comprises ammonium nitrate.

Claims 32-35 (canceled)

36. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 25~~ claim 30 wherein the water-supplying compound reacts to form water.

37. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 25~~ claim 30 wherein the water-supplying compound and the water-reactive fuel precursor are included as contents contained in a first chamber and wherein said heating step

comprises activating an initiator in discharge communication with the contents to form water.

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 37 wherein at least a portion of the formed water reacts with at least a portion of the water-reactive fuel precursor to form a fuel material.

39. (previously presented) The method of claim 37 wherein at least a portion of the water-supplying compound and at least a portion of the water-reactive fuel precursor are contained in the first chamber in direct contact.

40. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 37~~ claim 30 wherein, in an at rest condition, the water-supplying compound is stored segregated from the water-reactive fuel precursor within the first chamber.

41. (previously presented) The method of claim 37 wherein the first chamber is defined at least in part by a perforated housing.

42. (previously presented) The method of claim 41 wherein a liner within the perforated housing maintains the first chamber contents in discharge proximity with the initiator.

Claims 43-52 (canceled)

53. (previously presented) A method for inflating an inflatable safety device via an inflator device wherein a fuel material reacts to form gas generation reaction products, the method comprising:

reacting a water-supplying compound contained within the inflator device to form water,

contacting a water-reactive fuel precursor contained within the inflator device with at least a portion of the formed water to form the fuel material in situ within the inflator device,

contacting the formed fuel material with a quantity of compressed gas, the compressed gas including a quantity of oxidant,

reacting at least a portion of the formed fuel material with at least a portion of the quantity of oxidant to produce heat,

heating a stored quantity of inert gas with at least a portion of the produced heat to form an increased volume of gas and

passing at least a portion of the increased volume of gas into the inflatable safety device to effect the inflation thereof,

wherein the water-reactive fuel precursor comprises potassium t-butyl carbonate.

54. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 47~~ claim 53 wherein the water-supplying compound comprises ammonium nitrate.

Claims 55-60 (canceled)

61. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 57~~ A method for inflating an inflatable safety device via an inflator device wherein a fuel material reacts to form gas generation reaction products, the method comprising:

reacting a water-supplying compound contained within the inflator device to form water, the water-supplying compound selected from the group consisting of ammonium nitrate and an inorganic compound with stabilized waters of hydration,

contacting a water-reactive fuel precursor contained within the inflator device with at least a portion of the formed water to form the fuel material in situ within the inflator device, wherein the water-reactive fuel precursor comprises potassium t-butyl carbonate,

contacting the formed fuel material with a quantity of compressed gas, the compressed gas including a quantity of oxidant,

reacting at least a portion of the formed fuel material with at least a portion of the quantity of oxidant to produce heat,

heating a stored quantity of inert gas with at least a portion of the produced heat to form an increased volume of gas and

passing at least a portion of the increased volume of gas into the inflatable safety device to effect the inflation thereof.

62. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 57~~ claim 61 wherein the water-supplying compound comprises ammonium nitrate.

Claims 63-66 (canceled)

67. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 47~~ claim 53 wherein, in an at rest condition, the water-supplying compound and the water-reactive fuel precursor are stored within a first chamber, and wherein the water-supplying compound is stored segregated from the water-reactive fuel precursor.

68. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 57~~ claim 61 wherein, in an at rest condition, the water-supplying compound and the water-reactive fuel precursor are stored within a first chamber, and wherein the water-supplying compound is stored segregated from the water-reactive fuel precursor.